CROYDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY:
NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25TH APRIL 2017:

President Richard West opened the meeting at 19.45 hours and welcomed the 17 members present. As this was the **President's Evening** Richard had invited **Ben Palmer** as his guest to present his display on **New South Wales 1888-1912.** Ben was invited to make his presentation.

Ben began his collection in 2006 and had been shown at the International Exhibition in New York, There is evidence to suggest that the material is the world's first commemorative stamps. The first stamps were produced following a public essay competition in Australia to celebrate 100 years of European colonisation which attracted nearly 100 entries.

Ben showed the different denominations of the stamps – 1d, 2d, 4d, 6d, 8d, 1s, 5s and 20s (£1). There was a vast variety of material on show including adopted essays, colour trials, imperforate block, printed matter mail, tax mail, registered mail, postal stationary and official overprints. As well as individual stamps there were large blocks including two 60-stamp blocks from an original 240 sheet of the 2d stamp.

The material was of high quality, well presented and often of great value because of its rarity. Members enjoyed the opportunity of viewing such a superb collection. President Richard closed the meeting at 21.30 hours with a vote of thanks to Ben.

26.04.2017
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Graham Harker, Honorary Assistant Secretary